

BRITISH TROOPS NOW THIRTY MILES BEYOND BAGDAD

The Daily Mirror

CERTIFIED CIRCULATION LARGER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER DAILY PICTURE PAPER

No. 4,178.

Registered at the G.P.O.
as a Newspaper.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1917

One Penny.

THE ROYAL FAMILY BEREAVED—DEATH OF THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT, THE KING'S AUNT.



The latest photograph of the Duchess. It shows her with the Duke at a Canadian hospital.



Prince Arthur.



Princess Margaret.



Princess Patricia.



A recent studio portrait of the Duchess.

There will be deep grief to-day throughout the Empire, and especially in Canada, at the news that the Duchess of Connaught's illness has had a fatal ending. She passed away last night at Clarence House at seven minutes past eight. A biography will be

found on another page. Princess Margaret, now the Crown Princess of Sweden, Prince Arthur and Princess Patricia, her children, are also seen in the above photographs.—(W. and D. Downey, Swaine, La Fayette and Bassano.)

DEATH OF DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

Royal Victim of Influenza and Complications.

COURT MOURNING.

The Empire, and especially Canada, will learn with deep regret to-day of the death of the Duchess of Connaught, who passed away last evening.

The official intimation issued from Clarence House, St. James's, was as follows:—

Her Royal Highness passed peacefully away at seven minutes past eight this evening.

(Signed) Mrs. K. Fowler.
Bertrand Dawson.
Edward Worthington.

The previous bulletin said that the Duchess had "passed a quiet day, but her condition is unchanged." Prior to this statement it had been announced in the morning that the Duchess had passed a bad night and that her condition had become increasingly grave.

Great sympathy will be extended to the Duke of Connaught and to Prince Arthur, Princess Patricia and Princess Margaret of Sweden in their bereavement. A period of Court mourning will be ordered by the King.

The Duchess was taken ill with influenza and bronchitis on February 13, and on February 26 measles developed, accompanied by broncho-pneumonia. It was while in Canada in 1913 that the Duchess had a serious illness, and complications incidental to that illness, added to the attack of bronchial pneumonia, helped to hasten the end.

During the day there were a large number of callers at Clarence House. Prince Arthur of Connaught arrived early and remained for some time.

The King and Queen made special inquiries by telephone and messenger, as also did the Prince of Wales. Queen Alexandra visited Clarence House during the afternoon.

The Duchess of Connaught, who was born in Potsdam on July 25, 1860, was an aunt both of the King and the Kaiser.

She was the third daughter of Prince Frederic Charles of Prussia, and married the Duke of Connaught in 1879. She was then a girl of eighteen.

ROYAL HELP FOR SUFFERERS.

Her Royal Highness took a special interest in practical nursing. By her personal appeal in England and Canada she raised £34,000 for the Victorian Order of Nurses.

An instance of her spontaneous eagerness to help sufferers which nobly illustrates her lovable character occurred on September 10, 1906, when the motor-car in which she was travelling from Bagshot to London knocked down and severely injured a boy named James Coker, aged twelve, at Hounslow. Coker and another lad were hanging on to the back of a cart till Coker suddenly released his hold and was struck by the royal motor-car.

The Duchess immediately stopped the car, jumped out, lifted up the lad, and, seeing at once that he was badly hurt, had him lifted into the car, and drove with him to the Hounslow Hospital.

Her Royal Highness remained with him there a considerable time, and assisted to nurse him.

In 1911 she accompanied her husband to Canada on the occasion of the Duke becoming Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion, and her ready tact and openhanded hospitality made her equally popular with all classes.

NEWS ITEMS.

Imperial Conference To Be Held Soon.

Mr. Bonar Law, in the Commons yesterday, said the date of the Imperial Conference had not been fixed, but it would be held very shortly.

Sheep's Fifty-Six Days Under Snow.

A Herdwick sheep, still alive after having been buried in the snow for fifty-six days, has been found on the fells above Derwentwater Lake.

Boy Scout's Photograph.

Will John Charters, boy scout whose photograph appeared in *The Daily Mirror* on February 14, 1917, wrote to the Art Editor, 23-25, Boulevard-street, E.C.7.

Looping the Loop Sideways.

A remarkable feat of airmanship was performed at the Brooklands Aerodrome yesterday, when an instructor looped the loop sideways, wing over wing revolving like windmills.

The Mesopotamia Commission.

Lord George Hamilton and his colleagues on the Mesopotamia Commission are considering their draft report, which is likely to be presented to Parliament in about three weeks' time.

GAVE WAY TO "BILL."

Trench Hero Who Sacrificed His Life for a Little Girl.

"I AM STAYING BEHIND."

The Bishop of Chelmsford, preaching in London yesterday, told a dramatic war story. A Bethnal Green lad, he said, wrote to his parents that he was expecting leave.

Just about the time that he should have arrived in East London another letter came from the lad to his mother saying:—

"I found a man just close by me who was very sad. I said to him, 'What's the matter, Bill?' He said he had just heard his little girl was very ill, and he could not get leave to go home and see her.

"I know it will be a great disappointment to you, but I went to my officer and asked him whether Bill could not have leave instead of me. So Bill is having leave in my place, and I am staying behind."

A few days later the mother received a telegram saying that her lad had been killed while staying behind.

"FILL UP THE GAPS."

National Service Director's Appeal to Trade Unionists.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain explained to a delegation of trade unionists yesterday some of the features of the national service scheme as affecting organised labour.

He was asking, he said, the people of this country to make even greater sacrifices, in order that the good result of those sacrifices might not be thrown away.

He called upon the men of the country to fill the gaps left by those who had joined His Majesty's forces, and to provide reinforcements which were necessary to the various industries employed in the manufacture of munitions.

Mr. Chamberlain emphasised the following three points:—

If they signed national service forms they would not be prejudiced in respect of any of their rights.

The National Service Volunteer would have the privilege of appeal from an order removing him from one district to another, or allotting him to another occupation.

Instructed, he had been given that any emigration, in any occupation, might take into his employment any man who could produce a certificate that he had enrolled as a National Service Volunteer.

A National Service Volunteer, Mr. Chamberlain added, would, therefore, be employed in all industries of primary importance and in addition could secure employment in all restricted industries.

THE KING AND STRIKES.

"Word in Time That Very Often Prevents Misunderstanding."

A fleet of six motor-ambulances which have been presented to the Red Cross by the Midland Iron and Steel Trades Red Cross Fund were inspected by the King yesterday at Buckingham Palace.

Representatives of the employers and employees were presented to his Majesty by the Hon. Arthur Stanley, and the King was informed that the Wages Board, with which this fund was connected, controlled the conditions of some 50,000 workers in Staffordshire, Worsley, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Wales, and that during the forty-one years it had been in operation there had never been a wages dispute.

The King, in expressing appreciation of the fact, said that very often a word in time prevented much misunderstanding and ill-feeling between employer and employee.

HIDING UNDERGROUND.

Secret Chamber Where Men Evaded Military Service.

An extraordinary case came before the Bristol magistrates yesterday, George Edward Barker, cycle dealer, being charged with maintaining an underground chamber for the purpose of harbouring persons liable to military service.

The case rested on the evidence of two detectives. The allegation was that in a dry well a means of descent had been provided, and from this well had been cut a passage leading to a chamber, also carved in the stone, about 6ft. square.

The chamber was linked with the cycle shop by an electric conductor and a bell.

Some time ago, when two absentees from military service were being searched for, the police officers approached Barker about them. He refused to give any information. The two absentees have never been found.

He suggested, who denied having harboured anybody, was fined £5.

MR. ASQUITH'S "DAY."

Mr. Bonar Law in the House of Commons yesterday promised Mr. Asquith a day to make a statement on the Dardanelles operations.

He suggested, who denied having harboured anybody, was fined £5.

SUNDAY FIELD WORK.

Archbishop Says It Can Be Done with Clear Conscience.

"OF GREAT URGENCY."

"I have no hesitation in saying that in the need which these weeks present men and women may with a clear conscience do field work on Sundays."

Such was the reply of the Archbishop of Canterbury to a letter from Mr. Prothero.

The Archbishop added: "Care would, of course, be taken to safeguard from compulsion those who would feel such action on their part to be wrong or whose health would be seriously endangered by the extra strain."

In his letter Mr. Prothero had written of the delay which has been caused by the frost in ploughing the land for the harvest of 1917, and pointed out that every day is of the utmost importance to the food supply of the country.

Mr. Prothero, in conclusion, said:—

"In these circumstances of great urgency and national necessity, I should be very much obliged if you would give me your opinion on the question of tilling the soil for food on Sundays."

The New Pledge Card.—Edged with red, white and blue bands, Lord Devonport's pledge card was issued yesterday to householders for exhibition in their windows. On a white background it bears the inscription, in red and blue lettering:—

"In honour bound we adopt the national scale of voluntary rationing."

Copies may be had, post free, on application to the Publicity Bureau, Ministry of Food, Grosvenor House, W. L.

'SURE ROAD TO VICTORY.'

The King's Replies to Congratulations on Capture of Bagdad.

The King has received telegrams of congratulation on the capture of Bagdad from M. Poincaré (President of the French Republic), King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, the King of Montenegro, the Sultan of Egypt, and Senhor Bernardino Machado (President of the Portuguese Republic).

The messages are all couched in enthusiastic terms, and the Sultan of Egypt characterises the occupation of Bagdad as a "resounding victory."

The King has telegraphed replies of appreciation of the friendly congratulations, and in his message to the King of Italy says:—

"We join with you in the confident belief that this success advances us all another stage on the sure road to victory."

SEARCHLIGHT GIRLS.

North-Country Lassies Make the Powerful Mirrors.

"The beams of light," the Hon. Lady Parsons told a meeting yesterday, "that travel over the sky at night, crossing and recrossing each other in their search for Zeppelins, owe their lustre to the powerful mirrors behind the arc, mirrors that have been put together, backed and polished by North Country lassies."

Women, she added, had wonderful powers of endurance, especially in monotonous work, and it was quite certain that young women did better than men and young boys in this sort of work.

That two or three out of every five highly-skilled mechanics should be replaced by women, not so highly trained, but good enough for the work in hand, was one of the suggestions made by the speaker.

Some clever girls, she said, were highly skilled setters, others were working on howitzers, screwing the breech blocks, marking off parts of breech mechanism and turning and milling the firing pins.

AN EMPIRE GOVERNMENT.

Lord Milner on Imperial Help in Winning the War.

"A time may come, and I hope and believe must come, when the supreme direction of Imperial affairs will be in the hands of a Government representative of and responsible to the people of all the states of which the Empire is composed."

Thus spoke Lord Milner at a luncheon given at the Savoy Hotel yesterday by the British Empire Producers Association to Sir Edward Montagu, the Prime Minister of Newfoundland.

The Special War Council of the Empire, which was about to assemble, was commonly spoken of as an Imperial Conference.

Such, indeed, it was, but it was something more than the Imperial Conference which we had known in the past.

"We shall thus have for the time being an executive council of the whole Empire, capable of taking decisions about questions vitally affecting every part of it." (Cheers.)

DRAMATIC APPEAL IN COTTON DEBATE.

Premier on Act of Justice to India.

LANCASHIRE'S PROTEST.

Many dramatic incidents marked the great debate in the House of Commons last night on the increased Indian import duty on cotton.

The duty is considered by Lancashire as a blow at its cotton trade, while Free Traders are angry because, they assert, the duty is a protective one.

The features of the debate were:—

Appeal by Mr. Austen Chamberlain to Mr. Asquith to vote for the Government out of a spirit of great imperial patriotism.

Suggested amendment by Mr. Asquith, accepted by the Premier.

Declaration by Premier that the increased duty was a great act of justice to India and had sent a thrill of enthusiasm throughout the Indian Empire.

Private conference of the Lancashire members, who decided to register a formal protest.

The subject was also the occasion for a debate in the House of Lords, the speakers including Lord Curzon and Lord Crewe. The latter declared that Lord Curzon had made a preposterous and passionate appeal on behalf of the 300,000,000 of people in India. A motion consenting to India's contribution to the war was agreed to as amended by Mr. Asquith in the Commons.

INDIA'S £100,000,000 GIFT.

The raising of the Indian cotton duty is the result of India's gift of £100,000,000 towards the cost of the war.

The debate arose on a motion by Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Secretary of State for India, accepting India's gift.

He explained that the Indian Government had asked permission to raise the cotton duty from 3½ per cent. to 7½ per cent., as the one means, and the one means only, of paying for their contribution to the war.

If the Indian proposal were rejected the action of this country would be deeply and bitterly resented in India.

GERMAN PLOTS.

Mr. Chamberlain emphasised India's aid in the war.

The total of the Indian forces who had gone on active service amounted approximately to 350,000.

Touching on Indian loyalty, Mr. Chamberlain said that when the archives gave up their secrets the widespread character of German plots against this Empire would be made known. The Germans were evidently counted upon India as a promising theatre for their designs. But the people and rulers of India turned to the Government that had given them justice, liberty and peace, and all attempts to break the peace in India and the Indian frontiers failed.

Mr. Barton moved an amendment expressing regret that the charges for meeting India's contribution of £100,000,000 should include an alteration in the established system of duties on cotton goods.

Sir H. Norman seconded the amendment, and said it was a very serious matter that the great cotton industry should be gravely menaced by an administrative act. Lancashire was ablaze on the issue.

REAP IN ABUNDANCE.

Mr. Asquith pointed out that a rise in the Indian cotton duties without corresponding change in the Excise must have a protective effect.

In the interests of unity he suggested that the Government should add to their motion the words—

"This House declares its opinion that such changes as are proposed in the Indian Budget for the system of Indian cotton duties should be considered afresh when the fiscal relationship of the various parts of the Empire with one another and the rest of the world come to be reviewed at the close of the war."

Mr. Lloyd George said he should reap in abundance the harvest of this deed of justice.

Mr. Dillon: Did you never think of giving them justice before?

Mr. Lloyd George: At any rate, here it is done now. The country would reap in a very short time what the decision meant, and how it would help us in the prosecution of the war.

The addition to the resolution suggested by Mr. Asquith was acceptable and welcomed by the Government, and he moved the addition of the words. (Cheers.)

THE QUEEN AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

No further application for tickets can be considered for the women's meeting at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday.

The organisers could have ticketed the vast hall several times over, but Mrs. Tennant preferred to keep the greater part of the space free.

The Queen is taking great interest in the meeting, and the Prince of Wales has placed his box at the disposal of Mrs. Tennant and Miss Violet Markham.

Drury Lane and other theatres will on Saturday evening admit women workers in uniform who have been to the meeting at half-price for all seats.

NEARER TO BAPAUME—30 MILES BEYOND BAGDAD

Our Line Advanced on 1½ Miles Front South-West and West of Bapaume.

PROGRESS ON 1½ MILES FRONT AT ACHIET
1,000 Yards of Hostile Trench Occupied North-East of Gommecourt.

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, Wednesday.

9.10 P.M.—North of the Ancre Valley our line has been advanced on a front of over one and a half miles south-west and west of Bapaume.

We have also made further progress on a front of over 2,000 yards south of Achiet-le-Petit, and have occupied 1,000 yards of hostile trench south-west of Essarts (north-east of Gommecourt).

During the day an enemy raiding party north-east of Arras failed to reach our lines.

Last night a party of our troops raided the enemy's trenches east of Armentières.

We carried out effective bombardments to-day against enemy positions north of the Somme and east of Arras, where two explosions were caused by our fires.

There has also been considerable artillery activity east of Armentières and in the Ypres area.

FOE SHORTENING HIS LINE AMERICAN STEAMER SUNK IN THE WEST. WITHOUT WARNING.

Forward German Staffs Move Back Nine Miles—Blowing Up Bridges.

News of great events is expected from the British front.

A series of remarkable reports came from Paris newspapers yesterday. The most outstanding were:—

The German retreat before the British has been turned into a regular debacle.

The enemy is engaged on the whole length of his interior lines in blowing up bridges and works, setting fire to munitions and provision depots, and evacuating them in haste.

The German Staffs near the front have also moved their quarters and withdrawn some nine miles to the rear.

The early capture is expected of Bapaume and Peronne.

The principal line of defence of Bapaume being now in the hands of the British, the fall of Bapaume itself may only be a question of hours.

Major Morant, the German military critic, in the *Berliner Tageblatt*, admits that the Germans are shortening their line.

17 BRITISH SHIPS LOST OUT OF NEARLY 4,000.

U Boat's Unsuccessful Attacks on Sixteen Merchant Vessels.

The Secretary of the Admiralty issued last night the official return of arrivals, sailings and war losses of, and unsuccessful attacks on, British shipping for the week ending Sunday last.

The arrivals and sailings of merchant vessels of all nationalities (over 100 tons net) at and from United Kingdom ports (exclusive of fishing and local craft) were:—

Arrivals 1,985 | Sailings 1,959
British merchant vessels sunk by mine or submarine:—

1,600 tons (gross) or over 13*

Under 1,600 tons (gross) 4

British merchant vessels unsuccessfully attacked by submarine, sixteen†

British fishing vessels sunk, three.

*Includes two sunk during week ending March 4, 1917.

†Includes four attacked during week ending February 25, and two attacked during week ending March 4.

One merchant vessel under 1,600 tons reported last week as sunk has since been towed in.

AUSTRIA'S PRECAUTIONS.

ZURICH, Wednesday.—The Austrian military authorities have again instituted the twenty days' quarantine for persons crossing into Switzerland—a measure which has always preceded important operations. This time the rumours all concern the Southern Tyrol.—Central News.

"I'm Too Busy," Says Pirate When Victims Asked To Be Towed.

The American steamer *Algonquin* (1,800 tons, New York), bound to London from New York with foodstuffs, was sunk without warning by shell fire and bombs from a German submarine. All the crew have been saved.

The captain of the *Algonquin* told the Central News that at 6 a.m. on Monday a German submarine opened fire on them at a range of three miles.

Four shells struck the vessel, and the crew were ordered to the boats.

When the steamer had been abandoned the submarine approached and, after submerging, sailed round the *Algonquin* three or four times with only her periscope visible.

At length, satisfied that no danger threatened, the submarine came to the surface and sent some of her crew on board with bombs.

When asked to give the boats a tow to land the submarine commander refused, saying: "I'm too busy."

SEVERE INCIDENT.

New York, Wednesday.—A Washington telegram says:—"The view unofficially taken of the first reports of the destruction of the *Algonquin* are that, while the incident is a serious one, it is unlikely to bring about any change in the present situation between the United States and Germany."

The real issue is expected to arise when an American armed ship encounters a German submarine."—Reuter.

"A STATE OF WAR."

ZURICH, Wednesday.—The *Koelnische Zeitung*, the *Berlin Lokalanzeiger*, and the *Vossische Zeitung* are unanimous in asserting that a state of war already exists in fact between Germany and the United States.—Central News.

"BRITISH ATTACK FAILS WITH HEAVY LOSSES."

Berlin Claims To Have Taken Fifty Prisoners on the Ancre.

GERMAN OFFICIAL.

North of Armentières British detachments were driven off by our fire.

In the Ancre region the British attacked in the afternoon without artillery preparation between Achiet-le-Petit and Grevillers, and at night, after heavy fire, on both sides of Buequoy, but were repulsed with heavy losses and left fifty prisoners in our hands.

On the east bank of the Meuse French thrusts near St. Mihiel failed. One of our river posts was pushed back.

FOE CAPTURES 258 MEN.

GERMAN OFFICIAL.

On the Narajowska our raiding troops stormed parts of the main positions and destroyed extensive mine galleries and returned with two officers and 258 men as prisoners.



The British are thirty miles beyond Baghdad, and the British have reached a spot on the railway opposite Baku. The Russians have taken Kermanshah.—(G. Philip and Son.)

CHINA SEVERS RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

And at the Same Time Seizes Six Enemy Merchantmen at Shanghai.

35,000 TONS OF SHIPPING.

The Navy Department, says a Central News Washington message, received the following from the United States Senior Naval Commander yesterday:—

"China severed diplomatic relations with Germany to-day and seized all German vessels lying in port at Shanghai—about six in number."

"Sent all the crews ashore and placed armed guards aboard all the vessels."

Reuter's Agency understands that the German shipping thus seized amounts to 35,000 tons.—Reuter.

Germany's reply to China's protest against unrestricted submarine warfare has been handed to the German Minister, says a Reuter Peking message.

Germany expresses surprise at China's threat, and says that the surprise is doubly great because China has no shipping interests in the blockaded zones.

As regards loss of Chinese lives, the Note claims that these were sustained in the firing line, where Chinese are engaged in trench digging and other work.

Although it is difficult for Germany to cancel her blockade policy, the Note concludes by stating that she is willing to negotiate a plan for the protection of Chinese life, property, shipping and other rights.

[There is no truth in Germany's assertion that Chinese labour is engaged near the firing line, says Reuter.]

FRENCH REACH GERMANS' SECOND LINE.

Trenches Won and a Farm Stormed and Captured—Champagne Fighting.

PARIS, Tuesday.—In the region of Lassigny we carried out several coups de main against the German trenches and we put to flight an enemy reconnaissance.

North-east of Soissons an attempted coup de main against one of our posts near Soupir was easily repulsed.

In the region between the Butte du Mesnil and the Maisons de Champagne the Germans towards 6 p.m. delivered two violent counterattacks against the works we had captured on the left of the sector.

At any point, and sustained heavy losses. The grenade struggle continued throughout the night with obstinacy between Hill 185 and Maison de Champagne, where we captured some more trenches.

In the region south of St. Mihiel during the day yesterday an operation briskly carried out by our troops enabled us to carry the farm of Romainville and take some thirty prisoners.

Our detachments, moreover, penetrated at four different points into the German trenches between the Meuse and the forest of Apremont, advanced as far as the second German trench and brought back more prisoners.

During the night there was a fairly lively artillery struggle throughout this sector.

GENERAL NIVELLE.

Colonel Croft will ask the Prime Minister to-day whether General Nivelle has been offered the supreme command of the Allied Armies in France; and, if so, whether the British General Staff was consulted prior to the decision.

Whenever there is enough information to justify such a course, two bulletins a day will be issued as to the military operations on the western front, Mr. Macpherson informed the House of Commons yesterday.

GEN. MAUDE'S TROOPS' LIGHTNING DASH.

Masses of Munitions in Booty—Arms Factory in Order.

KUT GUNS REGAINED.

Measures Taken to Prevent Flooding When Tigris Rises.

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

Telegraphing on the 12th and 13th inst. the General Officer Commanding Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force reports that our advanced detachments have reached a point thirty miles up-stream from Bagdad and that steps have been taken to prevent the flooding of Bagdad city during the coming rise in the river.

In Bagdad the Turkish small arms factory is in good repair.

The railway workshops contain good, serviceable machinery, which is uninjured, also five locomotives and some rolling stock.

A large quantity of obsolete ordnance, including some antique bronze guns and masses of all kinds of ammunition have been found in the citadel.

The guns which were captured from us at the surrender of Kut in 1916 have also been recovered in the city of Bagdad.

TURKS LOSE ANOTHER STRONGHOLD IN PERSIA.

Russians Announce the Capture of Kermanshah.

Reuter's Agency is informed that a telegram received yesterday announces that the Russians have taken Kermanshah.

TURKISH OFFICIAL.

Tigris Front.—After fighting south of Bagdad on March 10 our troops withdrew and took up a new position between Bagdad and Samarra.

Caucasus Front.—Attempts to advance by strong Russian reconnoitring patrols were repulsed yesterday.—Reuter.

Kermanshah is about eighty-five miles by road from Khanikin, the frontier town which it is expected may be the spot at which the

"THE GOOD NEWS."

The King to Lieutenant-General Sir F. S. Maude.—It is with the greatest satisfaction that I have received the good news that you have occupied Bagdad. I heartily congratulate you and your troops on this success, achieved under so many difficulties.—George R.I.

Lieutenant-General Sir F. S. Maude to the King.—Your Imperial Majesty's gracious message has been communicated to all ranks of the forces serving in Mesopotamia, by whom it has been received with feelings of intense gratitude, loyalty and devotion. The difficulties by which we have been confronted have only increased our determination to surmount them.

Russian and British forces may meet. The main road from Kermanshah to Khanikin twists and turns at Harunabad and Kasir-i-Shirin. Possibly Russian cavalry might make for the Bagdad area via Mendali, which as the crow flies is but sixty miles from Kermanshah. Khanikin is seventy miles from Bagdad, and Mendali is about fifty-five miles from the city.

FOE SHELLS HOSPITAL.

SERBIAN OFFICIAL.

SALONIKA, Tuesday.—Yesterday there was artillery fire on the Serbian front.

Enemy aviators again bombarded our field hospitals at Vertekop and made victims among the patients and members of the hospital staff. Two British nurses were killed.

The hospitals at Vertekop are entirely separated from the other encampments, and are distinctly marked with the Red Cross.

It is evident that the enemy bombarded the hospitals intentionally.—Reuter.

BOMBS ON DESTROYER.

GERMAN OFFICIAL.

German hydroplanes on March 12 carried out a bombing attack against two Russian destroyers on the way to Constanza, compelling them to turn.—Central News.

When you look at yourself

in your mirror and note that your complexion is "blotchy," the whites of your eyes are tinged with yellow, or your tongue is coated or furred, you have a clear indication that your liver is "out of order." Don't ignore these signs. One or two Cockle's Pills will put you right, quickly, effectively, and without pain.

They will stimulate the action of your liver, and increase the vigour and healthiness of your whole system.

Cockle's
TRY
COCKLE'S
Next Time.
—
Buy a box
to-day.
ANTIBILIOUS
Pills

BY APPOINTMENT
Chivers' Jellies

SPLendid
FOR CHILDREN

Write for Recipe Book

The Orchard Factory,
Histon, Cambridge



Yours for 1/- deposit.

A neat & very fashionable Luminous Wrist Watch. Solid Nickel Silver, damp and dust-proof case with luminous hands & figures on black dial; time can be distinctly seen in the dark; perfect timekeeper; 10 years warranty. We deliver this Watch post paid, upon receipt of your FIRST DEPOSIT of 1/-.

After receiving the Watch, if satisfactory, the balance is payable 1/6 on receipt and 2/- monthly. Cash balance within 7 days. If dissatisfied you are under no obligation to keep the Watch. Deposit will be refunded in full if Watch is returned within 7 days. Worth £3 2s.

Reduced to 25/- Cash Price 21/6

J. A. DAVIS
& CO.

(Dept.

12)

26,

Denmark

Hill,

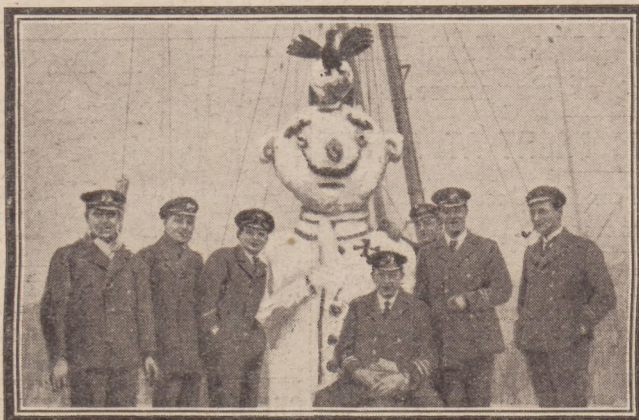
Canber-

well,

London.



"A MELTING APPEAL" FOR PEACE.



Naval men make a snow Kaiser with hands clasped supplicating peace. Note the Iron Cross and the German Eagle; also the upturned moustache.

BOTH WAR NURSES.



Mrs. Blaikie, who is now doing creche work. Before the war she was secretary to Lord Devonport.



Miss M. E. Anderson, who is to be married to-day to Captain C. Dennison. Shuttleworth.—(Swaine.)

DEFENDED DREYFUS.



Maitre Labori, formerly leader of the Paris Bar and the defender of Dreyfus, who died yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies during a secret sitting concerning military aviation.

FAMOUS ACTRESS ILL.



Miss Gladys Cooper, who has undergone a serious operation for appendicitis, with her little daughter.

TWO LIEUTENANTS AMONG THE MISSING MEN.



Lee-Cpl. J. W. Gilly (Bedfords). Write to Mrs. Gilly, at 67, Ferndale road, Leytonstone, Essex.



Pte. E. H. Wild (R. F.). Write to Mrs. F. Wild, at 66, Medial road, Clapton, London, N.E.



Cpl. Albert Thompson (Durham L.I.). Write to Mrs. Thompson, at 78, Marshall street, Darlington.



2nd Lieut. A. B. Swain (Northants Regt.). Write to Mr. B. Swain, 18, Courtenay-gdns., Uppminster.



2nd Lieutenant E. R. Garnett (Wiltshires). Write to Edgar Garnett, Tonachrae, Newton, Cieshire.



Pte. A. W. King (Durham L.I.). Write to Mrs. King, at 36, Sheridan road, East Ham, Essex.



Pte. G. Anderson (London Regt.). Write to Mrs. Anderson, 25, Radnor street, St. Luke's, London, E.C.



Pte. Pretty (R.B.I.). Write to Mrs. Pretty, at 53, Essex street, James-street, Stepney, London, E.

Glass of Hot Water Before Breakfast a Splendid Habit

Open sluices of the system each morning and wash away the poisonous, stagnant matter.

Those of us who are accustomed to feel dull and heavy when we arise; splitting headache, stuffy from a cold, foul tongue, nasty breath, acid stomach, lame back, can, instead, both look and feel as fresh as a daisy always by washing the poisons and toxins from the body with phosphated hot water each morning.

We should drink, before breakfast, a glass of real hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it to wash from the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels the previous day's indigestible waste, sour bile and poisonous toxins; thus cleansing, sweetening and purifying the entire alimentary tract before putting more food into the stomach.

The action of limestone phosphate and hot water on an empty stomach is wonderfully invigorating. It cleans out all the sour fermentations, gases, waste and acidity and gives one a splendid appetite for breakfast, and it is said to be but a little while until the roses begin to appear on the cheeks. A quarter pound of limestone phosphate will cost very little at the chemist's, but is sufficient to make anyone who is bothered with biliousness, constipation, stomach trouble or rheumatism a real enthusiast on the subject of internal sanitation. Try it and you are assured that you will look better and feel better in every way shortly.



National Service

MANY Ladies who have previously been unused to hard and heavy work have volunteered for service under the new campaign.

Each and all will find they need a toilet cream to keep the complexion fresh and prevent the hands from becoming hard and rough. Nothing else is half as good for this purpose as

Oatine
FACE CREAM

It gets down into the pores, and supplies natural oil to the minute oil glands beneath the skin so that they are enabled to nourish the skin and keep it soft and velvety.

Oatine also removes dirt and grime from the pores which soap and water cannot reach, hence its success. Oatine is used by War Workers everywhere. Get a jar to-day—1s. 1d. and 2s. 3d. of all chemists.

The Oatine Co., Boro', London, S.E. 1.

USE IT AND PROVE IT!

SECOND-HAND FURNITURE

CARPETS, PIANOS, PLATE, LINEN, PICTURES, Etc.

500 BEDROOM SUITES, complete, walnut, mahogany, Chipendale, etc., ranging from 3gns. to 170gns. OVER 600 BEDSTEADS, complete, of every style, ranging from 21s. upwards. DINING-ROOM FURNITURE of every character. Adams, Chipendale, Queen Anne, Jacobean, Hepplewhite, etc. Suites complete, ranging from 4gns. SEVERAL VERY LARGE SPANISH MAHOGANY WARDROBES, 10gns. CHOICE COSY CORNER, SPOON THREE ANTIQUE GRANDFATHER STRIKING CLOCKS. LARGE ANTIQUE JACOBAN HALL CUPBOARD. CHOICE SET OF GILT LOUIS XV. DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE. FOUR FINE ANTIQUE GENT'S WARDROBES, fitted with Sliding Trays and Drawers from 5gns. SEVERAL ANTIQUE TALLEY AND BOW-FRONTED CHESTS, from 3gns. Large quantity of OFFICE FURNITURE. Complete Set of very fine OAK DINING-ROOM FURNITURE. Maple's. BABY GRAND PIANO in E. enlaid Case, lovely tone instrument, nearly new, 35gns.

12,000 CARPETS—Mirzapore, Turkey, Malabar, Brussels, from 7s. 6d. 70 FINE CHESTFIELDS, spring-stuffed, from 3gns.; and 70 LOUNGE CHAIRS from 1s. 6d. SEVERAL VERY LARGE SPANISH MAHOGANY WARDROBES, 10gns. CHOICE COSY CORNER, SPOON THREE ANTIQUE GRANDFATHER STRIKING CLOCKS. LARGE ANTIQUE JACOBAN HALL CUPBOARD. CHOICE SET OF GILT LOUIS XV. DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE. FOUR FINE ANTIQUE GENT'S WARDROBES, fitted with Sliding Trays and Drawers from 5gns. SEVERAL ANTIQUE TALLEY AND BOW-FRONTED CHESTS, from 3gns. Large quantity of OFFICE FURNITURE. Complete Set of very fine OAK DINING-ROOM FURNITURE. Maple's. BABY GRAND PIANO in E. enlaid Case, lovely tone instrument, nearly new, 35gns.

FURNITURE AND CARPET DEPOSITORIES.

272, Pentonville Road, King's Cross, N.

Facing King's Cross Station (Metropolitan Railway), few minutes' walk from Euston and St. Pancras Stations.

Goods selected will be stored free by us until required. Orders packed free for country and sent carriage free anywhere in England. WRITE FOR CATALOGUE.

Daily Mirror

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1917.

SPARROWS AS FOOD?

CONTROVERSY about diet was common enough in the rather valetudinarian age that came before the war. We were tired of being told then that a man could live for ever if only he would take the trouble to find out what to eat and how to eat it. For on nothing did such divergences of scientific opinion exist.

We were assured that each morsel of our meat or vegetable was to be chewed thirty times. Mr. Gladstone did it; or said he did. Yet we were told also not to be self-conscious in our eating, but just to eat anything, anyhow, at any time. Thought about food was thus producing indigestion in a good many people.

Then, a few months later, the majority found themselves eating bully beef or brick-hard biscuits by gulps, somewhere in France; and glad of it; and no ill-effects to be observed.

How much imagination in all indigestion! Probably there was very little of that malady in Britain during the first two years of the war. Work drove it out of our heads.

Then came the preoccupation, now present, about food.

Once again, for very different motives, are we talking about "values" and "bases," what nourishes and what wastes. We rarely go anywhere without hearing of war discoveries in this field. One friend has a turnip cooked so as to resemble a potato. Another knows of a way of making beans do instead of beef. And everybody is busy telling everybody else how time, health and money are wasted by ignoring the value as food, it may be of kippers, it may be of rabbits, it may be of onions, cels, mushrooms or something else.

Now come sparrows.

With a polished wit Lord Harcourt framed for the Food Controller yesterday a question on the order paper thus:—

To ask the Food Controller whether he will except from the voluntary food ration: wood-pigeons, home-grown rabbits and house sparrows, so as to increase the ration, and create a demand for and the destruction of, these classes of vermin.

To call the sweet-murmuring wood-pigeon "vermin" betrays an aesthetic deadness in Lord Harcourt, comparable with the complaint about roses that you "can't eat them." Rabbits make good food. But sparrows?

A dreadful campaign is here outlined for the street boy, catapult-armed, stringing small Cockney birds upon a cord, as you see it done in Italy or Spain, where the valiant hunters—the *cacciatori*—go forth, arrayed as for big game shooting, and return at nightfall with a find of larks. We hold, as the phrase goes, "no brief" for sparrows; yet we envy the noble lord's daring in making an assault upon any "vermin" of this kind just now. In another order of things, where animals should rule, they might well ask such a question of the Supreme Controller or Special Providence about us, as this of Lord Harcourt's about sparrows; and, in fact, we remember that, when Gulliver visited the land ruled by horses, he found those noble beasts debating as to whether the whole race of Yahoos (or men and women) ought not to be exterminated as "vermin."

Indecent proposal! Yet we dare not absolutely declare that the Yahoos have a right to make a dead set, in similar debate, on any animal species—in case.

In case, the animals turn out to be nearer the designs of Providence, after all.

W. M.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

See deep enough and you see musically; the heart of Nature beats everywhere inside, if you can only reach it.—*Carlyle*.

FAULTS AND MERITS OF WOMEN WORKERS

DIFFICULTIES IN THE WAY OF ARDENT PATRIOTS.

By M. C. LEIGH.

THE quaintest thing about woman's war work is the impression it makes upon women themselves.

"Aren't women wonderful?" say some. "There are a good many failures," say others.

"How they quarrel!" say the rest.

Each statement has an element of truth in it. Some of us are wonderful, some fail, some quarrel.

The main cause of the failure seems to be not so much a want of natural ability as an amiable discursiveness, to which the feminine mind is prone, a delightful fluttering and dislike of steady application.

"Our girls are doing very well," said the

"That's not your affair; do as you're told." But also was right, a month's work was turned down.

It is not easy for an ardent patriot to find the place whence she can be sent for training in munitions. That bourn is not at the Ministry of Munitions; but she does not discover this till she has waited in a queue there for an indefinite period, missed lunch and finally filled up a form giving the history of her past and mentioning her present aims. On perusing this document the guardian of heaven knows what inner shrine, remarks:—

"YOU OUGHTN'T TO BE HERE."

"You oughtn't to be here. The Needle's your place. County Council's Building, Embankment. We'll be overrun with such as you today, I suppose. Letter in the papers, of course?"

"If said we did nothing but look in at shop windows, so I came. Now the day's wasted."

PATRIOTIC CLOTHES IN TIME OF WAR.

19— FASHIONS FOR MEN



AND WOMEN



Several well-dressed men have recently proclaimed that they have bought no clothes since the war began. If it lasts much longer this is what both men and women will be wearing.—(By W. K. Haselden.)

head cashier of a large business firm. "They make no more mistakes than a man would in learning a new job, but they have one serious fault—they won't stick at it; as soon as they have learnt their work they are off to try something new."

It is difficult for women to become part of the machine.

"While I was nervous I did well," said a girl in a high position in a bank. "When my work became mechanical I sometimes held up the whole bank by my mistakes."

Being practical, women are apt to think that men do not go the best way to work. Unfortunately, they never hesitate to say so.

"This work will be turned down; it is worthless," said a university woman at one office.

There'll be no one at the Needle but the ghost of Cleopatra." And there wasn't.

If one applies to Women's Labour Bureaux for work on the land one is apt to be asked if one is willing to kill sheep. I know one youthful amazon who was willing but I never met another.

The manner of the woman in authority to the humble aspirant for work is of a truly martial ferocity, guaranteed to cow the strongest spirit. "There's a waiting list of 50,000. Go on if you like. We don't care."

"What can you do?"

"N—nothing."

"Good morning."

"Why did you say 'nothing,' you donkey?"

Why didn't you explain about your languages?"

"A WOMAN'S SECRET."

NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SEXES IN REGARD TO DISCRETION.

THE BUSINESS WIFE.

MEN only keep business secrets because they know their wives are bored to listen to them.

If a man's wife happens to be in business, he will tell her all he knows over dinner in the evening, because she, being a business woman herself, can now understand. L. E.

GENERALITIES.

SURELY it is time that generalities as to feminine characteristics which might deter women from undertaking certain forms of work should be ruled out.

"W. R." says that women would not succeed as solicitors, as they are "not impartial enough."

This characteristic is by no means an exclusively feminine one.

There are men and women who are big-

mined enough not to be prejudiced in their judgments by their own personal feelings, as there are both men and women who are the reverse. The most prejudiced being I know is a man, and a clever one, and I also know a large number of women, who, though perhaps acknowledging their personal dislikes, would not let these influence their judgment.

Let "W. R." also remember that the women who are big enough to have cut away from the restrictions imposed on them for centuries, will also be big in every other sense, and that those narrow enough to be biased by their likes and dislikes will probably be content to remain in their old grooves.

I should also like to say this much, that is, that when a race has been repressed and not allowed scope for all its talents and qualities, these latter are apt to get concentrated and therefore exaggerated and even to some extent warped in the few lines left open to them.

The race of women has also been repressed and allowed until within the last half century no scope for any but their smaller and more domestic talents, which, being necessarily confined to a smaller circle, have resulted in a narrower outlook, added to which the power to reason has also been denied them, so they have, perforce, relied largely on their instincts only.

MARY MILLETT, Newport, Mon.

IN MY GARDEN.

MARCH 14.—Every cultivator of vegetables must now form a seed bed. Choose an open sunny piece of ground, and, during dry weather, well dig it over and make the soil as fine as possible. Ashes from the garden fire and a little root can be added. Then rake it level and make the surface fairly firm.

Cabbages, Brussels sprouts, lettuces, savoy, cauliflowers and kale should then be sown in drills (about half an inch deep) that run six feet apart. Cover the seeds with fine soil and protect from birds. E. F. T.

"She snapped my head off. I couldn't speak."

At one office half the women staff are down with chills, there being no heating through this awful winter.

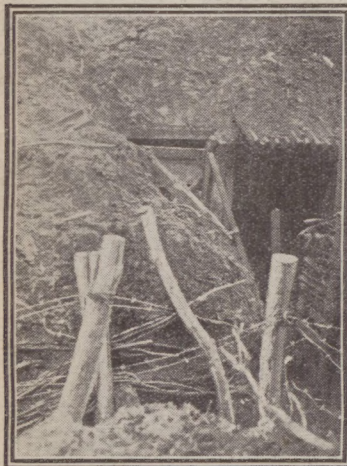
At committee meetings women are more adorably feminine than in any other of their new employments. Their astonishment is so genuine and so naive if a resolution is passed unanimously. Their hats are so unsuitable, so bird becrested, and each one so obviously hates the other's hat and likes her own.

One thing inseparable from women's work is the teapot. Whatever the dilemma, however wild the confusion and the hurry, all is put aside, and the strange creature serenely makes herself a cup of tea while the public rage behind a grating.

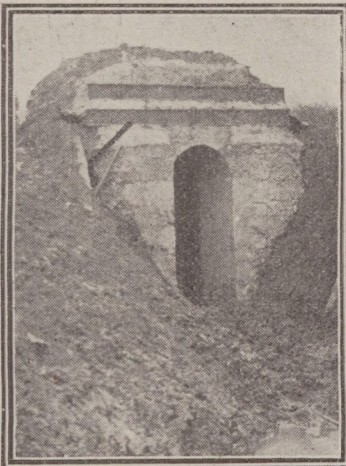
GERMANS GIVE UP A FAMOUS FORTRESS.



Two of the best houses left in Gommecourt after the British artillery had done its deadly work.—(Official photograph.)



Dug-out in German support line.—(Official.)



Remains of an enemy trench.—(Official.)

Gommecourt, one of the underground fortresses on which the Germans had spent months of labour, fell into our hands during the advance. It was surrendered to us by the withdrawal of the enemy, though it was immensely strongly fortified, and had defied capture ever since July 1.

AMMUNITION SUPPLIES FOR THE GRAND FLEET.



Hoisting a shell on board H.M.S. Lion, the famous battle cruiser.—(Canadian War Records.)

"PRESENT SPADES—DIG!" POT



Recording arrivals. Regular attendance is expected.



Two new girls.



A squad receiving a lesson in the up-stroke. Drills take place on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays. Beaconsfield Spade Club does digging drill regularly under an expert, and all the members' potatoes, beans and parsnips will turn out to be super-vegetables. Each member's only ambition is to produce bigger tubers than anyone else.—(Exclusively.)

TORPEDOED.



John Roy Christian, an American, who was on the Belgian relief ship Storstad. He was thirty-six hours in a small boat.

"SAW IT ON THE PICTURES."



Little Ronnie Channing and the little girl he risked his life to save when she fell through the ice. Older children were frightened, but not this boy, who, when asked why he was so brave, replied, "I saw it on the pictures." He lives at Sidmouth.

FOUR PORTRAITS OF INTEREST



Sir G. Chetwynd, the racehorse owner, who has died at Monte Carlo.



Lieut. S. J. Padlet (R.F.C.), reported missing. He comes from Toronto.



Miss Mary Grey, wife of Mr. J. B. Fagan, to play in "Damaged Goods."

T
R
H

RUSH TO OBTAIN SEED POTATO



Allotment holders besieging the salesmen at Birmingham Market, of which there were several hundred tons. No delivery.

SPADES—DIG!" POTATO DRILL.



attendance is expected.

Two new girl recruits receive their first lesson.



up-stroke. Drills take place on Saturdays, Sundays, and week nights, when light enough. Digging drill regularly under an expert, and all the members are hoping that, as a result, will turn out to be super-vegetables. Each member is given 100 square feet to dig, and to produce bigger tubers than anyone else.—(Exclusive to *The Daily Mirror*.)

FOUR PORTRAITS OF INTEREST.



Lt. S. J. Pedler (R.F.C.), reported missing. He comes from Toronto.
Miss Mary Grey, wife of Mr. J. B. Fagan, to play in "Damaged Goods."
The Rev. T. Guy Rogers awarded M.C. He tended wounded under fire.

RUSH TO OBTAIN SEED POTATOES.



Shoppers besieging the salesmen at Birmingham Market for seed potatoes. There were several hundred tons. No delivery could be given.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS "UNDER FIRE."



These conscientious objectors, on arriving at the gates of Dartmoor Prison, were bombarded with snowballs by the children.

CURED BY JOY.



Private C. Punter, of Kingston, who became dumb as the result of shell shock. Joy at seeing his wife restored his speech.

GOOD CROP OF CHICORY GROWN IN LINCOLNSHIRE.



Like a parsnip in form and colour.



Washing roots before chopping and drying.

Chicory has been grown in Lincolnshire, the first crop in the district for forty years. The yield was twenty tons an acre. The roots are put through a process of topping, washing, chopping and drying in a kiln.—(*Daily Mirror* photographs.)

D.S.O. FOR FRENCH HERO.



Captain de Marguerie, a French naval officer, and Colonel A. R. Oldfield leaving Buckingham Palace, where they were decorated with the D.S.O. by the King yesterday.—(*Daily Mirror* photograph.)

ACTED BEFORE AN AUDIENCE OF BLIND MEN.



"Daddy Long-Legs" was acted for the men at St. Dunstan's Hostel, Regent's Park.

THE HANTRY LOVER

By RUBY
M. AYRES



Esther Shephstone.

PEOPLE IN THE STORY.

MICKY MEL-LOWES, a rich bachelor, who had had all the good things of life, is able to help.

ESTHER SHEPSTONE, a beautiful girl, who is earning her own living. Esther has given up her employment, because she is going to be married to

RAYMOND ASHTON, a good-looking fellow who is going to throw the girl over.

JUNE MASON, who is Micky's friend, becomes Esther's friend. Micky confesses to June Mason that he loves Esther. Driver tells Micky that the announce-

ment of Ashton's marriage has appeared in the papers. Micky and June arrange to get Esther away from London, in order that she may not learn about Raymond's treachery. When Esther and Micky are out motoring they stop at a wayside inn. Esther hears two men talking of Raymond's marriage.

She rushes away and starts for Paris. Micky follows and catches her up at Calais. Esther is very angry when Micky tells her that Raymond is unworthy; then she breaks down and cries bitterly.

Before the train arrives in Paris Micky confesses that he wrote the letters which had so delighted Esther.

Micky does not wish to intrude upon her, for he feels that his company is unwelcome. He goes away. Esther is very desolate. She drives to the hotel from which Micky had written the letters; and there she meets Micky. He is very kind and takes her back to London. He asks Esther to marry him. Esther is full of remorse and says that she cannot marry Micky. He accepts the situation, and makes a compact of friendship.

A visitor comes to see Esther. He leaves his card—his name is George A. Rochester.

Rochester is very interested in Esther, and he is charmed by June who introduces them to lunch, and Micky is asked to complete the party.

Rochester tells June of his great affection for Esther's mother. He intends to marry her, and make her his heiress, but—he has changed his mind.

Rochester goes to see Micky, and he tells him how much June has impressed him. Micky is greatly relieved, for he thought that Rochester was in love with Esther.

Micky arranges, with Rochester's connivance, to transfer money to Esther, which is supposed to have been left by her father.

Days elapse during which Micky makes no sign. Esther and June go to a concert with Rochester, and there they see Micky with Marie Deland.

Marie Deland criticises June and makes disparaging comments upon Esther. Micky is furious, and Marie realises that Esther is the girl Micky loves.

Rochester tells Micky of his engagement to June. It opens Marie's wounds to hear of another's happiness.

At a dance Marie Deland is told by Raymond Ashton that Micky and Esther have been in Paris together.

Micky confronts Ashton, and tells him that the lady who was in Paris with him is his wife.

When Micky returns to his rooms he writes to Esther explaining why he has left her, and that she was his wife, and asks her to marry him.

Rochester tells June what happened when Micky and Ashton met. She is greatly interested, and when she returns home she finds that Esther has received Micky's letter and that she is melting.

THE GREATNESS OF LOVE.

JUNE rose slowly from her knees; she looked at Esther, and a queer thought went through her that she had never really known how pretty her friend was before. There was a new expression in her eyes.

"She looked," so June told Rochester afterwards, "as if she had just wakened up from some beautiful dream. I can't explain it any better than that—but that's just how she looked to me."

She took the letter from Esther's hand and glanced down at it.

"Micky," she said in a whisper. She hesitated to unfold it.

"Are you sure I'm to read it? Really sure?" "Yes."

June went back to the fire; she sat down on her favourite humpy stool, unceremoniously pushing the slumbering Charlie on one side. He gave a deprecating mico, but for once June took no notice.

Some minutes passed in absolute silence. Esther was standing quite still, her hands hanging limply at her sides; she did not even move when a little exclamation from June told her that she had finished reading—she felt as if she were in a dream—a dream from which she dreaded to be awakened.

Then June began to cry softly; tears ran down her face and on to Charlie's sleek back. She mopped them away and dried Charlie and shed more.

"I always said he was the most wonderful man in the world, and so he is," she said sobbing. "Except George—I always said that Micky was an angel; I always knew that he'd got wings tucked away under his smart coats."

(Translation: dramatic and all other rights secured.)

Why don't you speak, Esther! You ought to be dancing for joy—you ought to be thinking that you're the luckiest girl in all the world. Don't you love him? Couldn't you just go on your knees to him and tell him what a king amongst men he is—"

"The flush of her own enthusiasm dried her tears; she got up and went over to where Esther stood."

"Wake up, child! Wake up, and find out how beautiful life really is," she said insistently. "You've never known what it is to be really loved and cared for. That other horrid affair was just a mistake—and one that you ought to be glad to be rid of. Think what Micky has done for you—where would you be now if it wasn't for him? I thought George cared a lot for me, but I don't believe even he cares as much as Micky does for you. . . . Don't you dare to agree with me, though," she added darkly. "I told George when Micky settled this money on you, that . . . She broke off with a gasp. "Oh, my lord!" she said with a scream. "Now what have I done."

A faint colour rose in Esther's cheeks—her eyes seemed to wake to life.

"Micky! Micky! Micky!—this money—what money?" she asked hoarsely.

June fell to weeping in earnest now; she begged Esther not to let them know that she had told her. "I swore I never would—I gave George and Micky my word of honour—I'm not to be trusted; I always let the cat out of the bag. They'll never forgive me when they know. Oh, Esther, if you really love me at all."

Esther hardly listened; she shook June in an agony of excitement.

"What money! What money!" she said in agitation. "Tell me what you mean—tell me what you mean?"

June rushed into hysterical explanation. "I told your father that you . . . I never left it to you—he hadn't anything to leave. It's all rot—all Micky's idea—he hated the thought of you going back to Eldred's—he bribed George to pretend it came from your father—he settled a lump sum on you, and he told me the secret, and I swore I wouldn't tell—and now oh dear, oh dear. . . ." She sobbed disconsolately.

Esther stood like a statue; her head was swimming; she felt as if someone had carried her off her feet and whirled her up to a high mountain where wonderful breezes blew in her face and the sun shone.

She hardly heard June's broken-hearted sobbing. For the moment she was living in the world of her own, where the only other figure was Micky's.

"Be my wife, dear—be my wife!" So he still loved her, after all. There had been no need to lie awake all night and cry because she had seen him with Marie at the concert; no need to hate herself for not having found out sooner what a man he was—how in very truth he stood head and shoulders above all the others she had known—a giant of honour and goodness compared with one for whom she had shed so many bitter tears.

"After all, I know you would have found out sooner or later," June went on. "Things always come out. I told Micky it would when we went down to Enmore that time, and he overruled me—I told George this afternoon that you'd be sure to hear about the row last night."

"Then Mr. Rochester knows."

June nodded drearily.

"It's all over London, I should think," she said ruefully. "You know what men are—they're worse than a pack of old women. George heard it talked about in the club last night—only an hour after it had happened. That was what he wanted to tell me this afternoon. I didn't believe him—even I never thought Micky would be so mad—it only shows how much he loves you—as far as that letter."

She looked at the folded paper Esther held tightly in her hand. "I'm not religious," she went on bluntly, "but you ought to go down on your knees and thank God for giving you such a ripping new man to love you." She waited a moment, but Esther said nothing, and June went on impulsively. "It's not my business, I know—but if I were you, I should have raced off as soon as I got it and told him—told him what a fool I'd been not to see before that he was the one man in the world."

Esther's face quivered. A little wave of scarlet ran up from chin to brow.

"You wouldn't dare to," she said, in a whisper. "If you knew that you weren't good enough to—to even ask his forgiveness."

June looked at her in silent amazement. "There's nothing in all the world that Micky wouldn't forgive you," she said, at last. "I don't say you are good enough for him, mind, but . . . she made a little dart at Esther and kissed her."

"You know I don't mean that. You're a darling, and I love you, and if you don't make Micky happy . . ." She shook her fist with pretended anger.

"And now I'm going to make some tea," she said, briskly. "I had one with George, but with all this romance and mystery in the air I feel like some more. And I wish I'd let George come in after all. He wanted to, but I wouldn't have him. I wish I had now. I feel like a person somehow." She put the new hat down almost reverently on the table. "My word! What a difference a man can make in one's life," she said, suddenly grave. "I can't think how I shuddered at such piffle about not wanting to be married."

She bustled about the room singing blithely. "We'll both be married on the same day shall we?" she said. "Goodness! No wonder! People are forty-five. My crowd don't even know I'm engaged yet. I'm going to take George home to

see them on Sunday. I've discovered that he's fourth cousin, about ninety times removed, to a baronet, so, perhaps, that will put them all in a good temper with him. My people do love titles! Give them a lord, or something, and it doesn't matter what else he is, or isn't. . . . You're not listening, Esther!"

"I am. I heard every word you said."

WAITING AND HOPING.

BUT she hadn't. One line out of Micky's letter was ringing in her ears, excluding all other voices.

"Be my wife, dear—be my wife. . . ."

To many of Micky's friends she was his wife already; the thought sent a thrill through her heart.

"I'm going to be married in blue," June rattled on. "George—bless his dear old-fashioned heart—says that his idea of beauty is a dark girl dressed in blue, so there you are! Do you think blue will suit me?"

I should think you will look lovely in anything."

"You'll have to have a wedding dress and veil, of course," June said; she paused, teapot in hand and considered Esther critically.

"Micky would simply adore you in your wedding dress," she said with enthusiasm. "You'll look like a fairy princess with that golden hair of yours. I tell you what—I'll be married first of yours. I can't imagine what a stew the poor boy is in! I shouldn't wonder if he doesn't turn grey during this twenty-four hours—he did say he was going to wait twenty-four hours, didn't he?"

"Oh, please—please," said Esther tremulously.

She was afraid of her own emotions; though her heart was singing with happiness, she dreaded Micky at that moment more than any one in all the world; she felt that she would run to the ends of the earth rather than meet him.

June sobbed instantly.

"I'm sorry, but I'm so excited," she dropped a kiss on Esther's hair. "I think the world has gone mad," she said, "but it's a most scrupulous world all the same."

"I am pleased to say that Carmex has acted like magic on my infant son, who was troubled with digestive disorder."

Carmex is obtainable from all Chemists, price 1/3, or post free direct from the Manufacturers.



Wm. Browning & Co., Albert Street, Park Street, London, N.W. 1.

Please send me free, postage paid, a copy of "Tears and Smiles." NAME: ADDRESS: G

Wm. Browning & Co., Albert Street, Park Street, London, N.W. 1.



A dish of stewed rhubarb is lacking in its crowning charm unless it is served by FREEMAN'S DEVONSHIRE CUSTARD

The addition to this favourite delicacy intensifies the rich flavour of the rhubarb and neutralises its somewhat excessive acidity. FREEMAN'S DEVONSHIRE CUSTARD is the nearest approach to the old-fashioned Home-made Custard. For children especially there is nothing more health-giving than plenty of rhubarb and custard in season, and if the custard is FREEMAN'S there is nothing they look forward to with more delight.

Sold by all Grocers in 1 lb. pkts., 3d. & 8 1/2d. tins. £1 War Certificates are given away every week until the end of April, 1917. Send at once for a descriptive booklet—with details of the Great War Savings scheme—which will be sent post free on request. A 2/- War Saving Voucher is sent free to every applicant.

Freemans FOOD PRODUCTS F.C. 21 Watford

She did not speak of Micky again all the evening; she sat down and wrote a six-page letter to Rochester, and Esther sat by the fire with Charlie on her lap and dreamed.

No letters to write! June asked with elaborate indifference as the evening wore on.

Esther started. "No," she said.

For the moment the present seemed all sufficient; she forgot that though the twenty-four hours were racing away on winged feet of happiness for her, they must be crawling by at tortuous length to Micky.

He had not left his rooms all day—he had not eaten a thing; for once in his life Driver permitted a spasm of anxiety to creep into his dull eyes; he was quite sure that his master was going to be ill; he tried to tempt his appetite with dainty dishes, but Micky refused them all.

"My good man, I'm not an invalid," he protested listlessly.

He hated it, because he knew his agitation was apparent to his man; he tried to settle down to read, but not one word of the book could he absorb.

Sometimes his horses soared to the skies, only to drop to zero again. Once in a fit of despondency he told Driver to pack his bag, as they would be leaving early in the morning.

"Yes, sir—where shall we be going, sir?" Driver asked, totally.

Micky swore. "You do ask such infernally silly questions," he complained, irritably.

An hour later, when he found Driver packing, he called him a fool, and told him to unpack at once.

And so the day dragged away. "Any more posts to-night?" Micky asked, jerkily, when his dinner was served.

Driver eyed the clock. "There should be one at nine, sir."

But nine came, and half past, and no post. "Is it too late for the post now, Driver?" Micky asked, feverishly, when it was nearly ten.

"The post went by, sir," was the answer. "I was down at the door and saw the postman pass."

Micky went back to his chair; the fever seemed to have quitted suddenly in his veins. It was all he could expect, he told himself; there had been no answer to his letter; there would never be an answer now.

When Driver came into the room again Micky said, without looking up:—

"Pack that bag again, there's a good fellow, will you?"

"Yes, sir," said Driver, imperturbably. There will be another fine instalment to-morrow.

"Acted Like Magic on My Infant Son."

The accompanying testimonial is one of many received daily respecting the wonderful effect of Carmex in the elimination of Constipation, Colic, Flatulence and other digestive disturbances to which young children are liable. Carmex gives permanent and safe relief because it removes the cause of the trouble. Full particulars of Carmex and its uses are contained in the new Carmex Booklet "Tears and Smiles," a copy of which will gladly be sent you post free on receipt of Coupon below.

Carmex Turns Baby's Tears to Smiles

Please send me free, postage paid, a copy of "Tears and Smiles." NAME: ADDRESS: G

Wm. Browning & Co., Albert Street, Park Street, London, N.W. 1.

The Crown of the Rhubarb

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Miss Irene Hart, daughter of the late Sir Robert Hart, who has been nursing in France.

THE COTTON "CRISIS."

THE EAGERLY-AWAITED debate on the Indian cotton duties in the House of Commons last night provided a pleasant surprise for those who feared that the Government might have considerable trouble in getting the House to confirm the action they had taken. As a matter of fact, Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Asquith arrived at a compromise across the Table early in the evening.

Premier and Ex-Premier.

I spent several hours in listening to the speeches. There was no party feeling between the leading occupants of the two front benches. The Prime Minister, who sat between Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Austen Chamberlain, listened to every word of Mr. Asquith's speech, and the Ex-Premier, sandwiched between Mr. McKenna and Mr. Runciman, closely followed the twenty minutes' speech of Mr. Lloyd George.

Former Colleagues.

A good many nobles strolled into the Peers' Gallery. These, I noticed, included Lord Reading and Lord Gainsford, who sat together. The latter is better known as Mr. "Jack" Pease, a very popular Whip for many years. Both Lord Reading and Lord Gainsford are intimate personal friends of Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Asquith.

A Distinguished Indian.

I noticed several Indians in the public galleries. The most distinguished-looking occupant of the Diplomatic Gallery was the Maharajah of Bikanir. He wore a high khaki turban and the uniform of a British officer, with riding boots and bright spurs. A handsome man of commanding stature, with his jet-black moustache curled up in jaunty fashion, he reminded one of the "perfect Indian prince" of the young woman's novelette.

Back in Town.

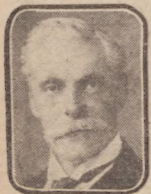
LORD PORTSMOUTH, who came back to town yesterday, is in many ways one of our most unconventional peers. The "red-bearded" Earl is fond of night walks in London, and often drops into one of the smaller music-halls or suburban theatres.

Stage and Parliament.

ANOTHER LINK in the chain that binds the theatre to Parliament. I hear that Mr. Walter De Foe has been adopted as the Unionist candidate for Brixton. Mr. De Foe is as deservedly popular off the stage as his charming wife, Miss Vesta Tilley, is behind the footlights.

Lord Islington.

IT WAS LORD ISLINGTON who was put down to champion the Government's new tariff policy in the House of Lords last night. Lord Islington, who is Under-Secretary for India, is better known to politicians as Sir John Dickson - Poynder, who for many years represented the Chippenham Division of Wilts in the House of Commons.



Lord Islington.

A friend tells me, a very popular Governor-General of New Zealand, and when the late Prime Minister made him Under-Secretary for the Colonies it came as no surprise to his political friends.

THIS MORNING'S GOSSIP

News and Views About Men, Women and Affairs in General

The Duchess of Connaught's Death.

THE NEWS of the death of the Duchess of Connaught was known in London shortly after eight o'clock last night, and everywhere evoked expressions of the deepest sorrow. The Duke is held in universal esteem throughout the Empire, and for him, no less than for Prince Arthur and his two sisters, the keenest sympathy will be felt.

The Bride's Bower.

YESTERDAY'S BRIDE, Miss Maud Nelke, stood under a bower of spring flowers with Captain Gilbert Russell in St. Andrew's Church, Wells-street. The altar steps were embowered with budding almond and cherry blossoms. The bride wore a straight tunic of gleaming brocade, loosely belted with pearls, a long lustrous silver train flowing behind.

The Congregation.

THE GUARDSMAN BRIDEGROOM's line of ribbons was outshone by his best man, General Lowther, whose coat was aglow with their varied colours. He stopped after the ceremony to greet the Dowager Marchioness of Sligo, who brought her twin daughters, and Lady Victoria Russell, who brought her two young daughters.

The Younger Generation.

OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION, Mrs. Cory Wright, whose bridesmaid Miss Nelke was last year, was there with Miss Phyllis Boyd, to whom rumour assigns a part in the coming Chelsea revue. There was not a score of guests in all.

An Irish Patriot Peer.

THERE IS NO ONE who has a greater regard for the welfare of Ireland than Lord Dunraven, and he is very much moved by recent events in the House of Commons. He and Lord MacDonnell have often suggested schemes for the settlement of the Irish problem, and I hear that Lord Dunraven will shortly speak in the House of Lords on the subject.



Lord Dunraven.

Irish beauty will make her debut. She is Miss Katherine O'Brien, the daughter of Lord and Lady Inchiquin. Her mother was a great heiress, and her grandmother was one of the most prolific anonymous contributors to the Press of her day.

The Baker's Little Joke.

IRISHMEN ARE ACCEPTING war legislation in a spirit of good humour if not of levity. A Dublin baker usually makes daily trade announcements on a blackboard outside his shop. When the order requiring bread to be baked twelve hours before sale came into force he wrote, "Nothing fresh to-day."

Sabots in Regent-street.

WALKING DOWN Regent-street I met two French peasants wearing sabots. "I suppose that will be the next fashion," exclaimed a passer-by. It is not unlikely. Linen and mackintosh uppers are, I hear, among the latest innovations in boots.

Inedible.

ONLY one kind of loaf can be baked; so you cannot eat "The Food Roll of Honour" which you read in the papers.

Our New Serial.

A VERY interesting announcement will be made to-morrow about the new *Daily Mirror* serial, which will begin on Tuesday next. I think you will be pleased when you hear the details. At present only tantalising rumours are in the air.

"Carry On."

YET ANOTHER regimental magazine has been brought to my notice. It is entitled "Carry On," and is the regimental magazine of a Cadet Battalion. The editor, Cadet B. J. Lamb, was formerly on the staff of *The Daily Mirror*. "Carry On" is a bright and breezy little paper—full of good stories, good verses and good pictures.

"Miquette et sa Mère."

WAR SEEMED utterly remote and absurd as we listened to that pretty French comedy, "Miquette et sa Mère," at the Court Theatre. I suppose it is about half a century old, and it certainly has a flavour of sentiment and preciousness very-welcome to-day. The story of the young count who loves the village maiden, and of his uncle the marquis who loves her less honourably, and his repentance in the end is vivified by the charm of Mlle. Dormeuil.

A Parisian Cast.

ALL THE PLAYERS were Parisians little known to London with the exception of M. Randall, the revue artist, who took the part of a shabby actor. The Princess of Monaco, who was in a box, has missed none of these French performances.

A Parisian Drama.

AN ENGLISH VERSION of "La Veille d'Armes," a famous French drama, which has been running for a long time in Paris, will shortly be produced at a London theatre by Mr. C. B. Cochran.

Actions and Reactions.

THE ACTION takes place on a French battleship, which is in action with a German one during the play. Then there is a dramatic court-martial, at which the battleship's commander's wife plays a striking, emotional part.

None for the Kaiser.

ASTRONOMERS report vast spots on the sun. The strongest telescopes fail to reveal one reserved for the Hohenzollerns.

"In the Shadows."

I WAS in a restaurant last night when the band suddenly struck up a once familiar strain. "Why, what's that? I seem to know it," said a bright young thing with sudden bewilderment. The name of the piece was "In the Shadows." Such is the durability of mortal fame.

The Sugar Shortage.

THE DIFFICULTY of obtaining sugar is leading to the use of various substitutes. I hear that the clerks in one Government office use golden syrup for their afternoon tea, while a woman friend tells me that a stick of barley sugar used as a tea spoon is most effective.

No Sinecure.

I NOTICE that a contemporary speaks of a statement by "the fool controller." A most excellent and useful appointment, but we are not told who has had the pluck to fill the post.

The "Twin" Concerts.

I TOLD you last week about Mr. George Robey's "twin" concerts at the Alhambra and the Palladium next Sunday for the Union Jack Club Extension Fund and the Motor Transport Volunteers respectively. Mr. Robey informs me that Lord French and Lord Derby will attend the Alhambra concert, which takes place in the evening, and that a national appeal will then be made for volunteers and vehicles for motor transport work. At the Palladium concert Mrs. Kirkby Lunn, the famous prima donna, will sing.



Mrs. Kirkby Lunn.

"No Lunch M.P."

I HAD tea yesterday with a Labour member, who has abolished lunch and doesn't think it necessary for one who rises late in the morning. Instead of lunch he has a cup of tea and a toasted bun, about four o'clock. Actors, journalists and night workers would be better, he says, if they dispensed with lunch.

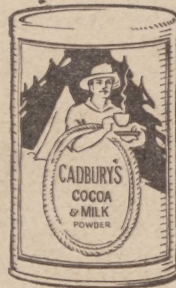
"Off."

"YOU CAN'T get a chop here, sir," said the waiter to the man in khaki. "Why not?" demanded Lieutenant Lonestar. "Are you out of chops?" "No, sir; we're out of bounds." THE RAMBLER..

No Sugar or Milk required!

CADBURY'S COCOA & MILK POWDER

A complete food.



Made in a moment with boiling water.
No waste; economical and clean in use.

1-lb. Tin 1/-, 1-lb. Tin 1/11.

MADE AT BOURNVILLE.

LOOK OUT FOR MR. BOTTOMLEY'S ARTICLE IN "SUNDAY PICTORIAL"

Daily Mirror

ON THE WATCH IN THE ARGONNE.



"Ascend the watch tower yonder, valiant soldier; look on the field and say how goes the battle."—(French official photograph.)

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS WAITING FOR A BATH.



Trains fitted with baths travel up and down the lines at the front, and are in great request. The men, in consequence, frequently have to wait some time before their turn comes along.

SAILOR'S ADVENTURE.



Horace Benjamin Channen (R.N.D.), who has been interned in Holland since the fall of Antwerp. A fortnight ago he was released on parole as his father was dying, but on his return to Holland his ship was wrecked, and he was picked up from an open boat.

YESTERDAY'S WEDDINGS.



Lieutenant-Colonel L. L. Wheatley, D.S.O., and his bride (Miss Esther Fairbairn) leaving Holy Trinity, Brompton.—(Daily Mirror photograph.)



Captain Gilbert Russell (Grenadier Guards) and his bride (Miss Maud Nelke) leaving St. Andrew's Church, Wells-street.—(Daily Mirror photograph.)

PORTRAITS OF PEOPLE IN THE NEWS.



Miss Muriel Barnby, daughter of the late Sir Joseph Barnby, is the charwoman in "Theodore and Co."



2nd Lieut. Lewis H. Pearson, younger son of the Vicar of Rothley, who has been awarded the Croix de Guerre.



Sir S. P. Sinha, who has just arrived in London to attend the meetings of the Imperial War Council.